

## **P-16: SHOUT Out No Tobacco Week**

**Venue:** Schools

**Goal:** Preventing Initiation of Tobacco Use

**Sponsoring Organization:** Tobacco Free Benton - Franklin Counties

**Abstract:** Students Helping Others Understand Tobacco (SHOUT) groups are high school tobacco coalitions for youth advocates who conduct peer tobacco education in middle schools. The SHOUT groups in Benton and Franklin Counties organized a week-long event called the 'SHOUT Out No Tobacco Week' to take the place of the Great American Smoke Out. Each school creatively put together their own tobacco prevention messages for the day or week. SHOUT students implemented school-based events including body outlines, white out faces, black out lockers, special speakers/assemblies, classroom presentations, games, giveaways, and more. In 2001, 8 high schools and 2 middle schools, with a total of 6,495 students were involved in the event. Over 100 SHOUT members planned and implemented the event. This is the fourth year that this event has been implemented in Benton and Franklin Counties, and it will be implemented again in the future.

**Recommendations:** Get commitment and support from school administration and keep them informed of the activities. Use youth input and allow plenty of time to turn their ideas into realities.

**Contact for more information:**

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